

1 PETITION to the Commissioner begins on page 3 of this paper.

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3 AMENDMENTS to the Specification, including Background, Summary,  
4 Drawing Description, and Description of the Preferred Embodiments  
5 begin on page 10 of this paper.

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7 AMENDMENTS to the Claims begin on page 13 of this paper.

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9 REMARKS begin on page 18 of this paper.

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1       Petition to the Commissioner

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3       Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner of Patents, under  
4       37 CFR 1.181 et seq., or any other CFR section deemed appropriate  
5       by the Commissioner, and authorizes payment of fees under 37 CFR  
6       1.17 et seq., or any other CFR section deemed appropriate, with  
7       authorization to charge Account No. 010428 for any fees deemed due  
8       in connection with the filing of this document in the U.S. Patent  
9       and Trademark Office, to reassign the present application to an  
10      examiner and a supervisor possessing at minimum level: 1) a basic  
11      understanding of electronic communications communicating  
12      informational content with various forms for synchronous and  
13      asynchronous signaling; 2) a basic understanding of electronic  
14      communications art parlance; and 3) an ability to properly reject  
15      claims based upon teachings and suggestions of cited references.

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17      NOW COMES, the applicant, with kind due respect, requesting a  
18      change in the examiner as there appears recurring unsupported  
19      rejections based upon an apparent inability to understand basic  
20      electronic communications communicating informational content with  
21      various forms for synchronous and asynchronous signaling, to  
22      understand basic electronic communications art parlance, and to  
23      properly reject claims based upon teachings and suggestions of  
24      cited references rather than unsupported and forbidden hindsight  
25      reconstruction as the basis of claim rejection. This case was filed  
26      on May 23, 2000, and after six years of applicant taking the time  
27      to instruct the examiner as to certain aspects of electronic  
28      communications, electronic parlance, and forbidden hindsight

1 reconstruction, the examiner persists in his rejections and  
2 failures to appropriately amend the specification, at unnecessary  
3 and large waste of governmental and applicant resources. After six  
4 years, of fruitless instruction to the examiner, enough is enough.  
5 It was hoped that the RCE would have provided a fresh examination.

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7 A very brief history and statement of this case seems  
8 appropriate at this juncture. The invention uses a sigma delta  
9 modulator to generate a binary signal having pulse width indicating  
10 an analog value input. This binary signal is transmitted as an  
11 asynchronous signal in binary form still having a pulse width  
12 representing an analog value of the analog input signal where the  
13 sigma delta modulator drives an optical laser transmitter  
14 transmitting the same pulse width representing a signal to an  
15 optical laser receiver having a filter for determining the pulse  
16 width, and hence, the analog value. As such, the transmitted signal  
17 is asynchronous, in that, it does not use error correcting codes,  
18 bit transitions, or framing data bits during optical transmission  
19 as an advancement in the art. The background of specifications  
20 clearly sets forth these synchronization problems that the present  
21 invention solves.

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23 The terms synchronous and asynchronous are well understood by  
24 anyone, that is, anyone skilled in the art. Even college students  
25 in their first introductory course in electronic communications  
26 understand the difference between synchronous and asynchronous  
27 communications, yet, the examiner seems to lack this basic  
28 understanding. Claims should be couched in positive language, that

1 is, stated as to what the invention is, and not what the invention  
2 is not. The original claims did not use the term asynchronous, a  
3 lack of synchronism, which feature solves the problems as stated in  
4 the background. The asynchronous communication aspect is inherent  
5 in the functional combination of the original claimed inventions.

6

7 After the examiner rejected the claims as to obviousness that  
8 includes both a consideration of the problem solved as well as the  
9 solution thereto, the specification and the claims were amended to  
10 specifically require the examiner to consider the problem solved.  
11 The examiner did not take this helpful instructive amendment as  
12 intended, but rather, made what is believed to be rather dubious  
13 assertions that the specification does not teach asynchronous  
14 communications, yet, the specification clearly states that the  
15 communication signals are transmitted without frames that is one of  
16 many kinds of synchronous signaling. The original claims did not,  
17 properly, use such language as "without framing bits". To help the  
18 examiner more fully understand the invention, as understanding  
19 seemed lacking, the specification was amended to specifically  
20 include the terms synchronous and asynchronous. The claims were  
21 amended, without an apparent need to do so, accepting of course, as  
22 an aid to the examiner, to more fully understand the invention to  
23 include "without framing" in positive language, that is with the  
24 term "frame asynchronous", so as to focus attention as to the  
25 novel aspects. Notwithstanding this painful instruction and adding  
26 unnecessary claim limitations, the examiner persisted in rejecting  
27 the claims under 35 USC 112, apparently, failing to exhibit a  
28 minimum understanding of the art and its parlance.

1       What more could one do to aid the examiner, to assist the  
2 examiner in understanding a basic concept of electronic  
3 communications?

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5       With respect to claim 1, the base independent claim, as well  
6 as claim 11, the second independent claim, the examiner rejects  
7 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable as obvious. The rejections are  
8 primarily based on two isolated cited references, Beauducel in view  
9 of Palmer, having no relevant connection between them, other than,  
10 both use a sigma delta modulator for modulation and that, Beauducel  
11 teaches electrical and optical communications and Palmer  
12 specifically teaches optical laser transmission. Both of these two  
13 references teach synchronous communications. How possibly could the  
14 cited references, using or suggesting synchronous optical  
15 communications, be used to reject claims properly based upon  
16 asynchronous communications? Actually, where all of the cited  
17 references teach away from the present invention, it is strong  
18 evidence of nonobviousness.

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20       The combination of these two references, teaching or  
21 suggesting the use of a sigma delta modulator for synchronous  
22 communication to arrive at the claim invention is forbidden  
23 hindsight reconstruction. The sigma delta modulator in the present  
24 application uses a local clock to modulate the pulse width with a  
25 time duration length, that is, the horizontal pulse width  
26 indicating an analog input value, the sought after information to  
27 be asynchronously communicated. The cited references use a local  
28 clock signal to modulate vertically the communication signal having

1 bit transitions, and hence, are synchronous communications. There  
2 is a clear difference. Additionally, there are no practical  
3 combinations of these cited references to arrive at the claimed  
4 combination, one of the hallmarks of forbidden hindsight  
5 reconstruction.

6

7 The examiner cites Beauducel Col 3 lines 56-62 as teaching  
8 "the modulated binary laser signal having a pulse width having a  
9 duration representative of the analog input signal (inherent in  
10 modulation)". Yet, Col 3 lines 45-62 explicitly teach the  
11 "synchronization element 5" that is local clock for providing  
12 transitions, and teach "the coding circuit 6" that is a multi level  
13 code for providing a coded signal. This language clearly teaches  
14 synchronism and coding so as to provide a binary signal having  
15 transitions. The synchronicity and the coding are the exact types  
16 of problems that the present invention solves. Claim 1 limitation  
17 provides "a pulse width having a duration representative of the  
18 analog input signal" When the analog signal is "coded", it loses  
19 its pulse width that would represent the analog value during  
20 transmission. Hence, the communicated signal is neither binary,  
21 synchronous, nor having a pulse width representing analog value.  
22

23 Palmer is cited for the proposition that sigma delta  
24 modulators have been used with lasers. Agreed, but, so what? The  
25 novel aspect of the invention is directed to the particularly  
26 claimed type of laser modulation over the optical communication  
27 medium, and that is, "a pulse width having a duration  
28 representative of the analog input signal". Palmer teaches a

1 coherent laser transmission communication system, inherently  
2 having, the required and necessary, optical modulation using "an  
3 embedded clock" at Col 2 lines 5-12. What the examiner is  
4 attempting to do, is to take, a precursor condition, that is,  
5 transforming an analog signal into one represented by a pulse  
6 width, admitted prior art, and a constituent aspect of the  
7 synchronized signal of Beauducel, while ignoring the  
8 synchronization aspect of Beauducel and Palmer for purposes of  
9 transmission, and then jumps to the claimed invention without any  
10 suggestion to do so, and contrary to the explicit teachings of  
11 Beauducel and Palmer, smacking of forbidden hindsight  
12 reconstruction.

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The examiner also relies upon the phrase "the data stream is self synchronizing", taken in isolation, unfairly so. What the examiner fails to take into account, is that a digital filter on the receiver side effectively filters the transmitted signal so as to determine the pulse width and hence to reconstruct the analog value, and in this sense, the "data stream is self synchronizing". Applicant never stated that the binary signal had bit transitions within the pulse width, used codes, or frames, or any other signaling method that would render the communication signal as being synchronously communicated. The examiner's reference to "the data stream" in the context of an over all system explanation to the particular binary signal having "a pulse width" just smacks of grasping for any justification to reject the claims, by applying applicant's words to different features and out of context, and hence, shows a demonstrable bias of being unfair and impartial to the present application.

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18       With kind due respects, applicant request that another  
19 examiner be assigned to the present application, which examiner  
20 should have a basic understanding of electronic communications and  
21 parlance and who can read cited references for they reasonably  
22 teach.

Respectfully Submitted

Derrick Michael Reid

Derrick Michael Reid

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